



CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
parks and recreation

A-1

06/24/08

Board of Park Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes

Tuesday, May 27, 2008
4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Parks & Recreation Conference Room
401 N. Morton St.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Carter at 4:00 p.m.

Board Present: John Carter, Les Coyne, Joe Hoffmann, Jane St. John

Staff Present: Mick Renneisen, Judy Seigle, Kim Ecenbarger, Angie Smith, Angie Thompson, Steve Cotter, Michael Simmons, Becky Barrick, Paula McDevitt, Susie Tempest, Sarah Nix, Lindsay Buuck, Leslie Brinson, Marcia Veldman, Julie Ramey, Dave Williams, Cheryll Elmore

Interns: Casey Steury, Geno Johnson

Buskirk Chumley: Danielle McClelland

City Administration: Margie Schrader, Legal

A. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A-1. Approval of Minutes of April 22, 2008 Meeting
- A-2. Approval of Claims Submitted April 23 – May 26, 2008
- A-3. Approval of Non-Reverting Budget Amendments
- A-4. Review of Business Report

Mr. Hoffmann made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Ms. St. John seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS/APPEARANCES

B-1. Public Comment Period

No public comment at this time.

B-2. Bravo Award

Ms. Smith addressed the Board and introduced Angela Williams as the May Bravo Award winner. Ms. Williams volunteered more than 22 hours at the 2008 Leonard Springs Nature Day program in March and April. She enjoyed her experience as a volunteer so much that she also volunteered at the Hoosier Hustle. Ms. Williams has lived in Bloomington for 13 years, having moved here to pursue a BA degree in Gender Studies at Indiana University. She now makes her own jewelry and owns a small jewelry business, A Beautiful Notion. She also supervised the Griffy Lake boathouse during the 2007 season.

Ms. Williams addressed the Board and stated that she really had a great time with the programs. Her favorite part of the program was “seeing 6th graders who may not get outdoors and hike much, get dirty and learn at the same time.”

B-3. Staff Introductions

Casey Steury introduced himself to the Board stating that he is the Community Events intern and is working very closely with his supervisor, Bradley Drake. He is focusing much of his time and efforts on the Community Farmers' Market on Saturdays as well as helping with the transitional move of the Tuesday Market. He will also assist with other community events such as the Senior Expo, Touch-a-Truck, and the Fourth of July Parade. He is also helping with the Community Garden Program. He plans to graduate in August from Indiana University with a degree in Tourism Management, through the School of HPER. He plans to begin his career as a Certified Park and Recreation Professional following his internship and graduation.

Geno Johnson introduced himself to the Board stating that he is completing his internship with the Banneker Community Center. He is a student at Indiana University majoring in Recreation Sports Management and a minor in Sports Marketing in the School of HPER. He is also a football player at IU. He hopes to work at a facility in the future that will allow him to have a positive affect on youth. He also hopes to eventually become a sports agent. He feels honored to have this internship with the department.

Lindsay Buuck introduced herself to the Board stating that she is the Health/Wellness Coordinator. This is a newly created position within the department. She has a BS degree in Kinesiology from Indiana University, completed in December 2006. During her education process she learned to do fitness assessments, interpretation, and prescription as well as obtaining ACE personal training certification. Much of her research was geared toward the youth population and the rise in childhood obesity. Since graduating she has worked at the Monroe County YMCA in the Sports Department and developed a holistic health and wellness program at area elementary schools. This program has been recognized as a community success story on INshape Indiana. She also worked in the Marketing Department where she served in many roles.

Daniella Usan introduced herself to the Board and stated that she is a member of the AmeriCorps Improving Health Throughout Indiana, an obesity prevention initiative. Her service includes promoting a healthy lifestyle by engaging the community in programs that encourage physical activity and nutrition. Since starting with the department in January, she has implemented a program at the Banneker Community Center entitled "Spoons Across America." "Spoons" was a program that taught elementary and middle school children the importance of eating healthy foods, food preparation and sanitation skills and dining etiquette. The program culminated in a dinner party in which the students cooked and served their family members dinner. In the fall she will begin a master's program in Public Health at Indiana University.

C. OTHER BUSINESS

C-1. Review of Griffy Lake Nature Preserve Master Plan Update

Mr. Cotter addressed the Board and presented them with the Griffy Lake Nature Preserve Master Plan update. The original plan was completed in 1984 and a lot of development and other changes have occurred since that time. He introduced Bill Jones who helped author the both the original document and the new updated draft.

Mr. Jones addressed the Board and stated that the consultant team has been busy the past year inventorying aquatic species, aquatic plants, birds, amphibians, mammals, reptiles, and conducting other surveys. Public meetings were held to gain public comment and response to the plan. He added that 70 recommendations were developed and the committee categorized those recommendations into capital, operational and policy designations. Capital priorities include: shoreline and stream bank stabilization, continuing with the water control structure, relocation of the dog exercise/park area, public safety (better/more efficient ways for people to get to the lake), pedestrian access/boardwalk along the causeway and upgrading/redesigning trails. Operational priorities include: monitoring water quality, controlling invasive aquatic plants, managing and monitoring damage from wild animals including deer and geese and an increase in marketing/publicizing programs. Policy recommendations include: dedicated operating funds to help sustain the preserve, establish a "Friends of Griffy" group and lowering speed limits along the causeway.

Mr. Coyne stated that he is very concerned about the impact of the land use around the watershed and feels that issue needs to be addressed in this process.

Mr. Jones stated that there are opportunities to follow through on water quality issues in the future provided funding is available.

Mr. Hoffmann stated that these issues should be presented to the City Planning Board for their input as well.

Ms. St. John stated that it is the responsibility of the Board and staff to maintain this natural preserve and determine the best way to take care of the property. She also thanked Mr. Jones for his dedication and acknowledged his background and in-depth knowledge of natural resource management.

Mr. Carter also acknowledged the scope of the plan and the consultants involved. He also offered his thanks to the Utility Service Board for the financial contribution that enabled this plan to come to fruition.

Richard Martin, Griffy Lake resident and member of the Monroe County Plan Commission, addressed the Board and urged them to send a letter to the County Commissioners upon adoption of the plan indicating that the plan has been completed and it has recommendations pertinent to the Griffy Lake watershed. This is especially important as the commissioners begin the process of drafting a new comprehensive plan for the county. He also stated that he feels activity at Griffy isn't nearly as heavy as it was back in the late 1970's and early 1980's when the original plan was drafted. He thanked the city for practicing good management and maintaining the lake during the past 20 years.

Mr. Hoffmann thanked Mr. Martin for his comments and acknowledged his time served on the City Planning Commission and the County Planning Commission.

C-2a. Review/Approval of Agreement for Exterior Rehabilitation and Repair of the Buskirk-Chumley Theater

Mr. Williams addressed the Board seeking approval to award a construction contract for exterior rehabilitation of the Buskirk-Chumley Theater (BCT). He stated that the City took ownership of the BCT around 2003 and the Parks Department is in charge of overseeing the facility. Following an inspection of the building, it was determined that an exterior rehabilitation of the facility is necessary. The project will be paid for with TIF Funds with approval by the Redevelopment Commission. Four bids were received for this project with the low bid of \$548,468 received from Brandt Construction, Inc. This includes the base bid plus alternates #1, 2, and 3. Staff recommends awarding the bid to Brandt Construction for the base bid of \$530,119, Alternate #1 (replace two lobby entry doors) \$911, Alternate #2 (west storefront renovation) \$6,305, and Alternate #3 (east storefront renovation) \$11,133 for a total project cost of \$548,468.

Ms. McClelland addressed the Board and thanked them for considering this approval. She stated that since BCT Management took over management of the theater, they have continued to experience an increasing amount of water infiltration into the historic building. In the last year a virtual "river" flows down the hallway and into one of the dressing rooms. Water also leaks into the HVAC system and the electrical/lighting system which makes it potentially dangerous for patrons and staff and compromises the integrity of the building. She is very excited about the possibility of fixing the water "issues" at the facility.

Mr. Renneisen stated that the department oversees a management contract with BCT that includes parks oversight for maintenance issues at the facility. Staff is currently renegotiating a 3-year agreement which will be presented to the Board for approval later in 2008. Expenses are funded by the Downtown Tax Increment Fund (TIF) so it does not affect the Parks and Recreation Department budget. Expenses must be approved by the Redevelopment Commission.

Mr. Hoffmann made a motion to approve awarding the contract for exterior rehabilitation and repair of the Buskirk-Chumley Theater to Brandt Construction for a total cost of \$548,468 (which includes the three alternates).

C-2b. Review/Approval of Agreement for Consultant Services to assist with inspection of the Buskirk-Chumley Theater Exterior Rehabilitation and Repair Project

Mr. Williams addressed the Board seeking approval of the agreement for consultant services to assist with the inspection of the BCT rehabilitation and repair. Staff recommends awarding this contract to Ratio Architects for an amount not to exceed \$19,000. These funds have been approved by the Redevelopment Commission to be paid from the TIF Fund.

Mr. Hoffmann made a motion to approve the agreement for consultant services for BCT rehabilitation and repair project. Ms. St. John seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

C-3. Review and Approval of Agreement for Reconstruction of the Banneker Center Retaining Wall

Mr. Williams addressed the Board seeking approval of the agreement for reconstruction of the Banneker Community Center retaining wall. The department has declared this wall repair project a “Public Works Emergency” under the authority granted by IC 36-1-12-9. This procedure allows for an expedited bidding and contract award process so that repairs may be made quickly. Three project bids were solicited with two received. Staff recommends awarding the bid to the low bid of Whaley Construction at \$83,560. It should take less than 45 days to complete the project.

Mr. Hoffmann made a motion to award the agreement for reconstruction of the Banneker Center retaining wall to Whaley Construction for \$83,560.

C-4. Review/Approval of Partnership Agreement with Lake Monroe Sailing Association

Mr. Simmons addressed the Board seeking approval of the partnership agreement with Lake Monroe Sailing Association (LMSA). He stated that there are no changes to the partnership. In 2007 the adult sailing classes served 12 participants with nine on the wait list. The youth sailing camps served 61 participants with two on the wait list in the six sessions offered. In order to make lessons available to more participants in 2008, LMSA has added an additional intermediate camp in the youth sailing program and an additional boat for two sessions of the adult sailing classes.

Mr. Coyne asked if any scholarships are awarded for this program. He also expressed concerns for ensuring the safety of participants during the classes.

Mr. Simmons stated that a safety plan is in place and he makes several visits during the program to ensure that all procedures are being followed. There are usually one or two youth scholarships awarded for this program.

Mr. Hoffmann made a motion to approve the partnership agreement with Lake Monroe Sailing Association. Ms. St. John seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

C-5. Review/Approval of Gift Certificate Policy

Ms. Veldman addressed the Board seeking approval of the Farmers’ Market gift certificate policy. She stated that this year a program was developed that allows for the purchase of gift certificates from the department that can be redeemed at the Farmers’ Market. The vendors that accept the gift certificates are reimbursed by the City for the gift certificates that they accept. Staff is proposing the use of these gift certificates as an honorarium for professionals that donate their services to the market. Payment for Chefs on Stage and judges for Market events are examples that staff would like to use the gift certificates as a form of payment. After speaking with the State Board of Accounts, it was determined that as long as the Board approves a policy and protocol for use of the gift certificates, the practice is allowable. The gift certificates are good for one year from date of issue.

Mr. Coyne stated that he could see this program expanding for further use.

Mr. Hoffmann made a motion to approve the Policy #7180 Gift Certificate policy. Ms. St. John seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

D. REPORTS

D-1. Operations Division – No Report

D-2. Sports Division – No Report

D-3. Recreation Division – Farmers’ Market Report

Ron Stephenson, Chair of the Farmers’ Market Advisory Council, addressed the Board and presented them with an update on the Advisory Council’s activities for the past year. He stated that one of the things he has learned since joining the council is maintaining the integrity of the Market and keeping it focused on its mission. He stated that one issue in particular took a lot of staff time and Board time but felt it was important because it is so important to the Market to remain true to its mission. In looking at the Market and its general health and management, the Market appears to be in very good shape. Staff estimates an increase of 15% in attendance for the 2008 season. He added that as a 42 year resident of Bloomington, he regards the Market as one of the most enjoyable and important institutions of the City. He added that he is very comfortable with the management of the Market and acknowledged the staff, specifically Marcia Veldman and Bradley Drake, for all of their efforts.

Ms. Veldman addressed the Board and provided them with an update on the Farmers’ Market. She stated that 2007 saw record customer attendance with a 15% increase from 2006. Two highlights from 2007 were the establishment of the Food Stamp (Market Bucks) Initiative and the Soup Tasting. This year looks to be another year of positive growth and enhanced services. New developments for 2008 include the move of the Tuesday Market to Sixth and Madison Street, the implementation of the Gift Certificate Program and the Homegrown Indiana Farm Tour.

D-4. Administration Division – No Report

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Seigle, Secretary Board of Park Commissioners